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[redacted] 401-49

Copy 129

13 March 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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SUBJECT: ORANT Briefing for [redacted] Chief,

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1. On 13 March [redacted] was provided an operational briefing on project ORANT. The purpose of the briefing was to acquaint [redacted] with the requirement for refueling areas and emergency bases in Pakistan and Turkey, and to solicit his opinion regarding the political climate now prevailing in those countries and the wisdom of approaching those countries for base and refueling rights. It was [redacted] opinion that we should not seek to obtain prior permission from the host countries for either overhead refueling or emergency base rights, but rather attempt to blend our operation within patterns established by SAC.

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2. In defense of his reasoning not to brief any representatives of the host governments at this time, [redacted] stated that the Council which is present in Turkey, specifically, could not permit a designation by him of that individual would be the proper one to brief and if such a designation were possible he could not guarantee the longevity of any such individual within the government.

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3. He also opined that we should take no action at this time to brief the [redacted] concerned until we are well approaching actual operational readiness and then to reconsider the wisdom of such an action at that time. He recommended that we not attempt to obtain Turkish approval prior to the establishment of the special fuel port or pipe lines in Turkey but again ride the coattails of SAC and accomplish the necessary construction and preparation under the guise of a normal SAC or Air Force requirement. He mentioned that he and the Director might

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
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[redacted] Control System

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possibly travel to Turkey next month and at that time would possibly consider surfacing the operation to the ☐ and/or subordinator.

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4. In a telephone conversation with ☐ following his briefing he reaffirmed his position and stated he felt we should definitely limit the knowledgeability of this program in the field.

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(Signed)



☐
Chief, Program Staff
(Special Activities)

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C/PD/OA: 2003-01-4526 (13 Mar 63)

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